

So I happen to think trade and clean air and trade and labor conditions—good labor conditions—go hand in hand. It's the poor nations that have trouble dealing with labor conditions. It's the poor nations that have trouble meeting their obligations to environmental quality. And I firmly believe, like my friend the President believes, that commerce and trade go hand in hand,

which will yield a more prosperous society all throughout the hemisphere.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:41 p.m. in the Club Executive Room at the Hilton Quebec. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### Statement on the Observance of Earth Day *April 21, 2001*

On April 22 each year for more than three decades, Americans have paused on Earth Day to celebrate the rich blessings of our Nation's natural resources and to take stock of our stewardship of nature's gifts. Each of us understands that our prosperity as a nation will mean little if our legacy to future generations is a world of polluted air, toxic waste, and vanished forests.

During the past 31 years, we have made progress on protecting our environment.

America is truly blessed with a vibrant and flourishing environment. But with blessings come responsibility. There is much more to do. As we celebrate Earth Day on this April 22, 2001, I encourage Americans to join me in renewing our commitment to protecting the environment and leaving our children and grandchildren with a legacy of clean water, clean air, and natural beauty.

### The President's News Conference With Summit of the Americas Leaders in Quebec City *April 22, 2001*

*[Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada opened the news conference with brief remarks in French, and a translation was not provided. He then continued in English.]*

*Prime Minister Chretien.* We will start with the President of the United States.

*President Bush.* Mr. Prime Minister, thank you very much, and congratulations on a very successful summit. I want to thank you and your staff and the people of Quebec City for their hospitality.

I've been most impressed by the discussions we've had. It's clear to me that ours

is a hemisphere united by freedom. It's a partnership that will help us tackle the big challenges that we all face: the education of our children, HIV/AIDS, protecting our environment. It's a strong partnership. It's a partnership that will help us all achieve what we want—is that everybody in our respective countries are able to succeed and realize their dreams.

I want to thank my fellow leaders who were here. This is my first summit, as you know. I've been most impressed by the quality of leadership. I am most thankful